

# CONCLUSION

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## Overview

The Plan of Conservation & Development has been prepared to meet the challenges that will confront the Town of Stonington in the future.

The first step in the planning process was to understand Stonington and its residents. A great deal of information was collected, presented, reviewed, and discussed as part of the process of developing this Plan.

The second step was to determine where the people of Stonington want to go. Many meetings were held to assess local issues and discuss alternative strategies. Through this work, general goals were developed and a vision for the future of Stonington was confirmed.

The third step was to develop actions and policies to guide Stonington's residents and agencies towards achieving this vision. These specific strategies are detailed throughout the Plan and summarized in the implementation tables.

While a lot of thought and hard work went into preparing this Plan, the most important step of the planning process will be implementation of the recommendations. While the task of implementation falls on all Stonington residents, the responsibility for implementing the Plan lies with the Planning and Zoning Commission and other Town agencies.

The Plan is intended as a guide to be followed in order to enhance the quality of life and the community character of Stonington. It is intended to be flexible in terms how specific goals and objectives are reached, provided that the long-term goals of the community are achieved.

During the next few years, many of the higher priority tasks will be completed and goals will hopefully be achieved. Some circumstances will certainly arise that may suggest that it is time to reconsider the Plan or some of its elements. Such situations should be welcomed since it will mean that the Plan is being actively used and considered by residents. By preparing this Plan of Conservation & Development, Stonington has taken the first step towards creating a better future for all Stonington residents.